

Flights of Fancy:
Carrie Hawkins and Matt Tisdale
January 24 – March 22, 2025

20 NORTH
GALLERY

18 N. St. Clair Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604 419-241-2400
20northgallery.com — info@20northgallery.com

Haunting surrealism and dreamscape treasures...

Featuring paintings by Matt Tisdale and collages by Carrie Hawkins, the two-person exhibit includes surrealist paintings in acrylic and oil, as well as mixed media tableaux in fiber, metal, wood and other repurposed materials.

Ranging from small-scale, wall-hanging mixed media artworks, to 3- and 4-foot-wide paintings on paper and panel, these imaginative pieces will enchant viewers. Temperance, Michigan collage artist Hawkins presents pieces from her *Dreamscapes* series and Columbus, Ohio painter Tisdale presents works in his signature neo-surrealist style.



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dreamscape treasures...*

View the online catalogue at 20northgallery.com

Dreamscapes: Recover (detail);
mixed media; by Carrie Hawkins.

In Bloom (detail);
oil on panel; by Matt Tisdale.

Gallery Hours:
Wed. - Sat.
Noon - 4 p.m.
Or By Appointment

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Forward:

A key objective of gallery art direction is seeking works for exhibition that will engage not only specific interaction with viewers, but also inspire engagement between the exhibited artworks themselves. It is my joy to introduce here the art of Carrie Hawkins and Matt Tisdale to our patrons and to one another. New to featured exhibition at 20 North Gallery, their strikingly beautiful and occasionally disquieting artworks create thought-provoking visual conversation.

Although Hawkins and Tisdale have been stalwarts of Ohio, Michigan and Midwestern art festivals, these two artists had never previously met. Yet their respective artworks beautifully complement one another and reflect similar foci in inspiration and material sourcing. Tisdale's use of surrealism to first remove, then supplant, symbolism in his depicted objects is corresponded by Hawkins' celebration of imagined past-history in the life of the objects she incorporates into her collages. And her passionate commitment to repurposing existing materials is mirrored in Tisdale's fond use of vintage hand-crafted frames, to reflect the creation of "new history" that imbues his art.

The distinctive works of both Carrie Hawkins and Matt Tisdale mesmerizingly transport the viewer to an Arcadian alter-reality, replete with stirring whimsy that alternates between fanciful tableaux and surrealistic iconography. Tisdale's paintings and Hawkins' collages create a unique and energetic exhibition unlike any other in 20 North Gallery's 32-year history, sure to delight new and established collectors.

— Condessa Croninger, Art Director, 20 North Gallery

Carrie Hawkins

Temperance, Michigan

Artist Biography

Carrie Hawkins received her Associate of Applied Business in Commercial Art from Davis College (Toledo, Ohio) in 1996 and her Bachelor of Arts in Individualized Programs with concentrations in Painting and Cyber Arts from The University of Toledo (Ohio) in 2001. Hawkins has also completed coursework for a Master in Art Education through The University of Toledo. Hawkins has previously worked as an arts instructor for elementary classes and later as a substitute teacher. She has completed freelance work for clients including the Toledo Zoo & Aquarium (Ohio). Currently, Hawkins focuses on studio art and fiber pieces with an emphasis on recycling and repurposing of materials. Her range of work can be found online and at arts festivals under the name Scaredy Cat Primitives.



Carrie Hawkins
Photo courtesy of the artist

For three decades, Hawkins has consistently participated in juried and group exhibitions across the United States Midwest, Florida and Canada, through arts organizations, arts festivals and other public institutions, earning her numerous awards and honors. She has had work included in the annual *Bedford Arts for Our Future* group exhibition at the Bedford Branch of the Monroe County Library System (Temperance, Michigan) in 2000-2002, 2005, 2006, 2014, 2017, 2018 and 2022-2024, through which she has been awarded First Place, Second Place, Third Place (4 times) and 3 Honorable Mentions. Over the past three years, she has exhibited in prestigious juried art festivals including *ArtPrize* in 2022-2024 (Grand Rapids, Michigan), *Art Basel* (Miami, Florida) in 2024 and the *Crosby Festival of the Arts* at Toledo Botanical Garden (Ohio) in 2024. Her work was accepted into multiple juried Toledo Federation of Art Societies (TFAS) exhibits, including the members-exclusive shows in 2021 at Schedel Arboretum and Gardens (Elmore, Ohio) and TFAS Studio + Gallery (Toledo Botanical Garden) 2023 (Second Award), in addition to the *TFAS 100+3: Juried Regional Exhibition* installed at 20 North Gallery (Toledo, Ohio) in 2020. Recently, in 2023, her work was exhibited at the Woodstock Art Gallery in Woodstock, Ontario (Canada) in *Visual Elements 65*, a juried group exhibition which in 2024 traveled to Lourdes University (Sylvania, Ohio).

Hawkins has been interviewed for multiple publications, including *VoyageMichigan* magazine, *UT News*, *Shoutout Michigan* and *CanvasRebel*. She has been featured in eight editions of *Prism Magazine* from 2012-2017. Hawkins was an independent member of the Toledo Federation of Art Societies (Toledo, Ohio), from 2020 until its dissolution in 2025. Since 2006, she has been a member of the Toledo Craftsman's Guild (Ohio), for which she served as Trustee from 2019-2021 and has served as Vice President since 2022.

Artist Statement

My work explores the relationship between our consumable, disposable society and the sentimental nostalgia of the past. The influences of history as well as the environmental impact humanity has on the earth are prevalent through my recycled found object and vintage-inspired art works.

I have always been fascinated by objects. As a child, I always had numerous collections of accumulated found treasures. Often, I wondered about the story behind an item and would often imagine vivid stories of how that item came to be discarded, only to be discovered by my observant eye.

That is what truly inspires my art, to pay tribute to the past and a much simpler way of life. I am passionate about recycling and repurposing and can frequently be found scouring flea markets and garage sales looking for new additions to my art. In today's world of excess, it's important to me to seek out those old, discarded and once-loved things of the past that are destined for a landfill and breathe new life in them through my art. My current body of work explores the effects of our consumable society on the natural world, particularly textile and clothing waste. In each piece, I use fabric from damaged sweaters, along with found objects and paint to create a dream world, unaffected by our declining environment.



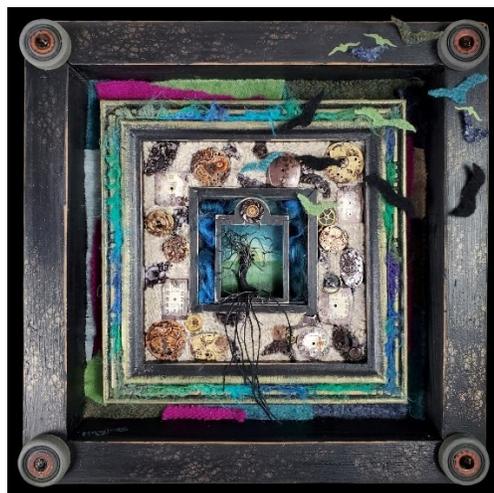
Carrie Hawkins' studio
Photo courtesy of the artist

Carrie Hawkins Artwork

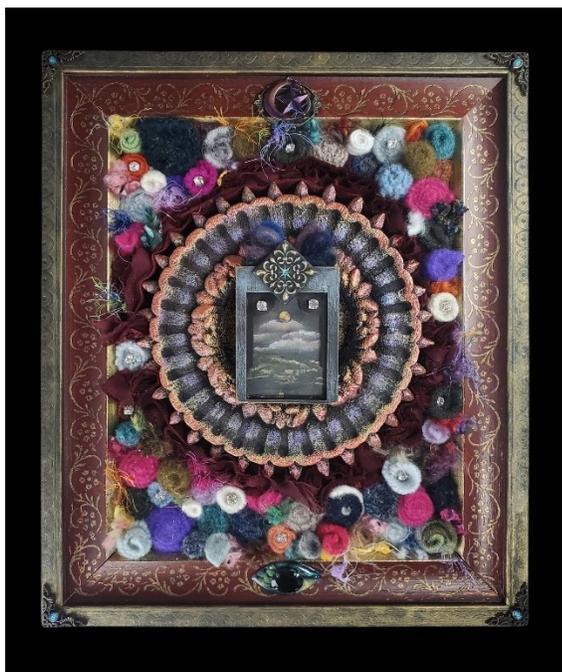
All work available for purchase. All artwork images provided by Carrie Hawkins. Dimensions listed represent full artwork size.



Queen of the Dreamscapes; \$575
Mixed media; 13"H x 10"W; 2022



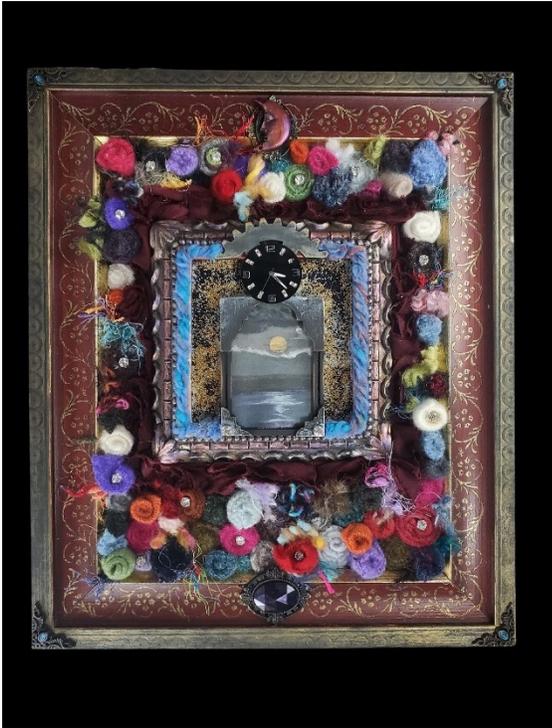
Dreamscapes: Rescue; \$375
Mixed media; 10.5"H x 10.5"W; 2022



Dreamscapes: Renew; \$400
Mixed media; 13"H x 10.5"W; 2022



Dreamscapes: Recover; \$375
Mixed media; 10.5"H x 10.5"W; 2022



***Dreamscapes: Restore*; \$400**
Mixed media; 13"H x 10.5"W; 2022



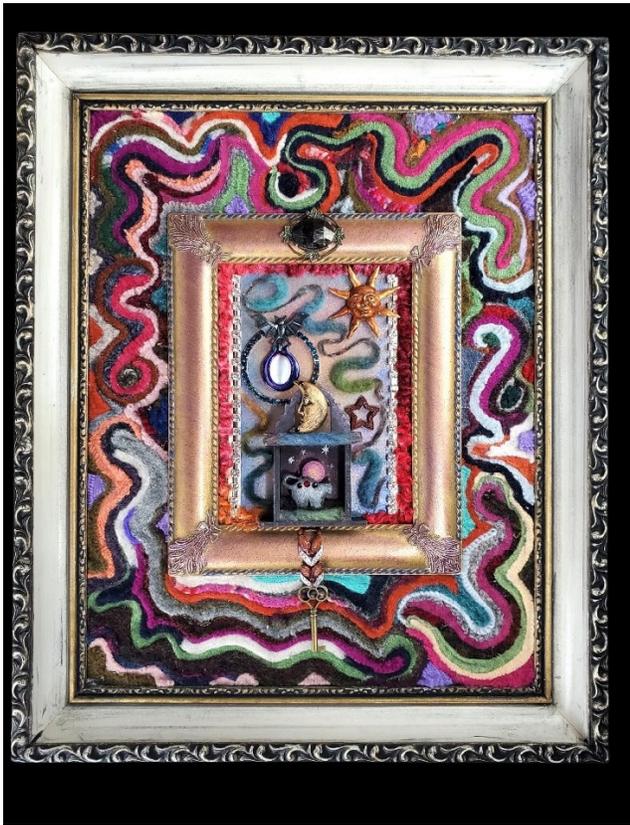
***Dreamscapes: Meditate #1*; \$500**
Mixed media; 17"H x 12"W; 2022



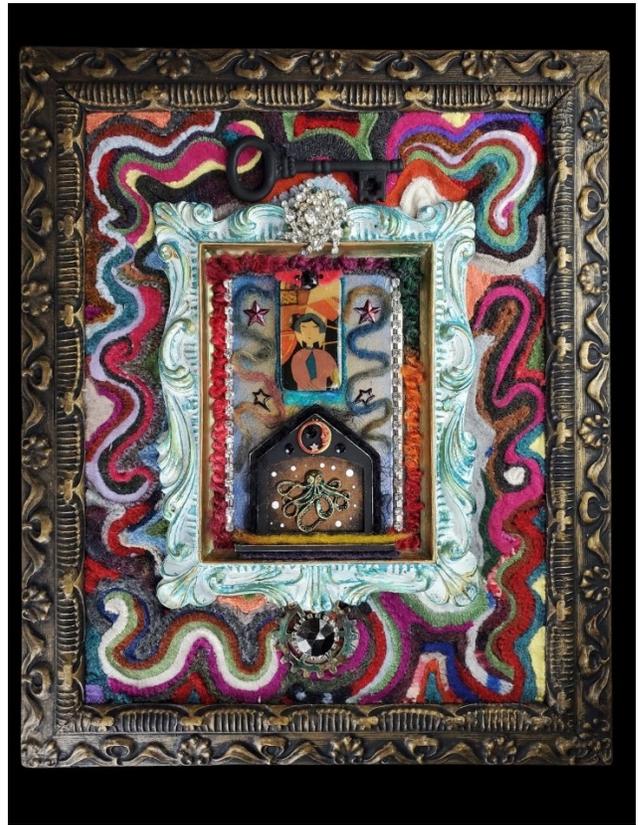
***Dreamscapes: Meditate #2*; \$375**
Mixed media; 12"H x 10"W; 2022



***Dreamscapes: Heal*; \$325**
Mixed media; 10.5"H x 8"W; 2022



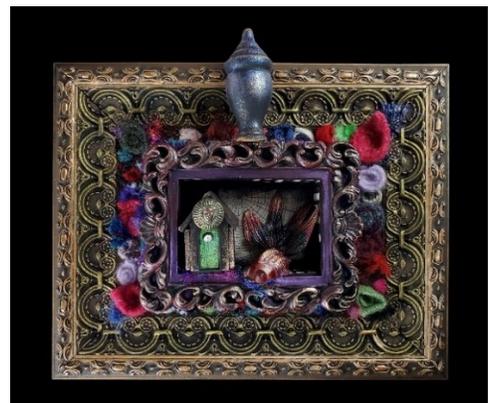
Dreamscapes: Thrive #1; \$500
Mixed media; 16.5"H x 13.5"W; 2022



Dreamscapes: Thrive #2; \$500
Mixed media; 16.5"H x 13.5"W; 2022



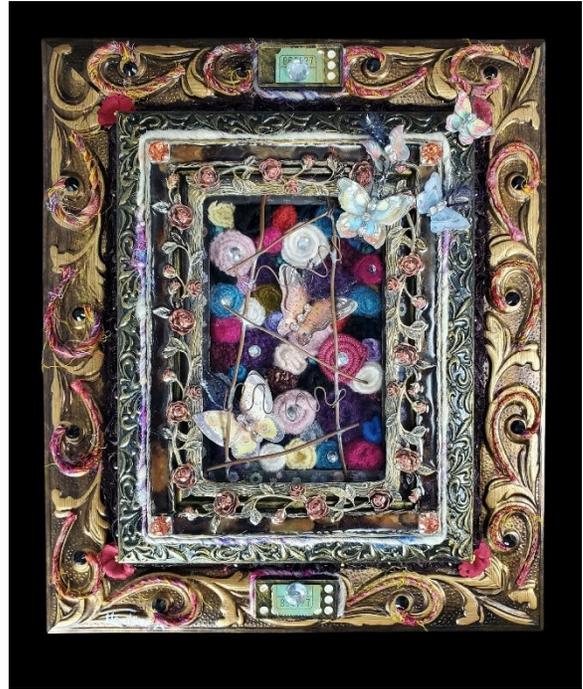
Dreamscapes: Rebirth; \$375
Mixed media; 10"H x 12"W; 2022



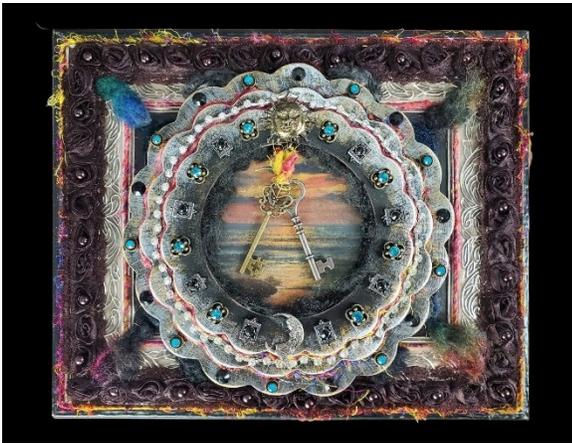
Dreamscapes: Dream #1; \$300
Mixed media; 8"H x 9.5"W; 2022



Dreamscapes: Dream #2; \$300
Mixed media; 8"H x 9.5"W; 2022



Dreamscapes: Release; \$400
Mixed media; 13"H x 11"W; 2024



Dreamscapes: Vision; \$350
Mixed media; 8.75"H x 10.5"W; 2024



Dreamscapes: Tranquility; \$400
Mixed media; 10.75"H x 12.25"W; 2024



Dreamscapes: Serenity; \$450
Mixed media; 12"H x 14"W; 2024

Matt Tisdale

Westerville, Ohio

Artist Biography

Matt Tisdale was born in Akron, Ohio and raised by creative parents, who instilled in him an early appreciation for the arts. Tisdale received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration/Fine Art from the Columbus College of Art and Design (Columbus, Ohio) in 2003. Following graduation, Tisdale completed commercial and residential mural work in addition to sculpture and painting restorations. Tisdale's career in graphic design and illustration began in 2008 through full-time work designing for Hollister Co.



Matt Tisdale
Photo courtesy of the artist

Tisdale has exhibited across the United States in juried shows and arts festivals. His paintings have been accepted into the juried annual *Crosby Festival of the Arts* in Toledo Botanical Garden (Ohio) for several years, most recently in 2024, when he was awarded Second Place in Painting. Other arts festivals Tisdale has participated in include the *Black Swamp Arts Festival* (Bowling Green, Ohio), *Spectrum Fantastic Art Live* (Kansas City, Missouri), *Art Birmingham* (Birmingham, Michigan), *Columbus Arts Festival* (Ohio), *Art in the Loop* (Memphis, Tennessee)

Tisdale has been interviewed for *VoyageOhio* magazine and *City Scene Magazine*, among other publications.

To learn more about Matt Tisdale's artistic career, visit his website at matttisdale.com.

Artist Statement

The art movement that my work best relates to is Neo-Surrealism. The defining characteristics within the painting are just as important as the viewer's interpretation of the art. They advocate that descriptive expressions are vital, but that the sense of their arrangement must be open to a full range of imagination. Surrealism found a method: to expose psychological truth by stripping ordinary objects of their normal significance, in order to create a compelling image that is beyond formal organization.



Transformation and Eye See You, in progress
in Matt Tisdale's studio

Matt Tisdale Artwork

All work available for purchase. All artwork photography provided by Matt Tisdale unless otherwise indicated. Dimensions listed represent full artwork size.



***A Dream of Flight*; \$5,000**
Oil on panel; 12”H x 48”W; 2024



***Transformation*;**
\$12,000
Oil on panel; 42”H x
36”W; 2024



Sagittarius; \$3,000
Oil on panel; 28"H x 22"W; 2024



Regeneration; \$5,000
Oil on panel; 36"H x 20"W; 2023



White Rose; \$600
Oil on panel; 10"H x 8"W; 2024



Eye See You; \$800
Oil on panel; 13"H x 13"W;
2024



In Bloom; \$2,400
Oil on panel; 19"H x 13"W; 2024



Breathe; \$5,000
Acrylic on paper; 32”H x 24”W; 2015



The Raven; \$2,500
Oil on panel; 20”H x 16”W; 2024



Free Fallin’; \$2,500
Oil on panel; 18”H x 18”W; 2023



The Ohioan; \$600
Oil on panel; 12”H x 9”W; 2024

Photo by 20 North Gallery



Datura; \$2,400
Oil on panel; 19”H x 13”W; 2024



Saint Surreal; \$2,000
Acrylic on paper; 17”H x 17”W; 2018



Clouded; \$2,400
Acrylic on paper; 19”H x 13”W;
2015

Reserve Artwork

Artwork available for private viewing and immediate acquisition. Contact a Gallery Associate for details.



Arctic Lights; \$7,000
Oil on panel; 28”H x
36”W; 2023

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Catalogue editor: Anastasia Wagner, Exhibition Curator
Gallery Manager, 20 North Gallery

Copy editor: Condessa Croninger
Art Director, 20 North Gallery

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For purchase inquiries, please contact 20 North Gallery.

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